

Behavioral Health e-Update

December 2012/January 2013



John R. Kasich, Governor
Orman Hall, Director, ODADAS
Tracy Plouck, Director, ODMH

Governor Authorizes \$5 Million to Develop Strategies to Help Stabilize Children in Crisis



Governor Kasich has committed an additional \$5 million to develop targeted strategies to stabilize children in crisis who have intensive needs. The Governor is committed to improving care coordination and providing support for families with children in crisis who present a risk to themselves, their families, or others because of a mental illness or a developmental disability. Support for these families will reduce risk of harm and help the family to remain together as

a unit, rather than resort to out-of-home placement. Mental Health Director Tracy Plouck and Developmental Disabilities Director John Martin will take the lead on working with families and other stakeholders to develop best practices and implement programming related to this funding. Articles related to the announcement are linked [here](#). *Columbus Dispatch* editorial [here](#).

Consolidation Corner...

Work continues toward consolidation of the Ohio Departments of Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services into the *Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services* (Ohio MHAS). Both the state and local relationships and the external relations and client involvement committees have meetings in the next couple of weeks. Keep checking the [consolidation website](#) for the latest news, updates and meeting schedules. Also, your feedback is valued! Please continue to send comments and questions to consolidationquestions@mh.ohio.gov.

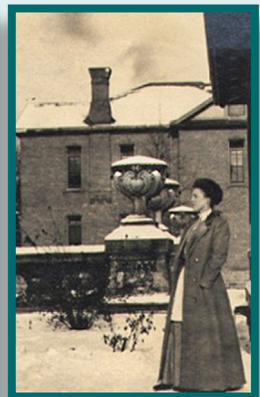
State Hospital Celebrates 125th Year of Mental Health Services to Northwest Ohio

During 2012, one of the six regional psychiatric hospitals operated by the Ohio Department of Mental Health, Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital (NOPH), celebrates 125 years of providing inpatient mental health treatment services to Ohioans. A reception was held at the current hospital site in Toledo on Jan. 7 to celebrate this milestone. Other commemorative events are planned for later this year.

NOPH, which serves a 23-county catchment area in the northwest Ohio region, has a capacity of 114 beds. The hospital, which is led by CEO Mychail Scheramic, PsyD, MBA, and Chief Clinical Officer Dr. Thomas Osinowo, admitted 592 people during state fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012).

The state's first public psychiatric hospital opened in Cincinnati in 1824. Later in the 19th century, several more institutions were built throughout the state, including the Toledo Asylum for the Insane, which was established in 1888. In 1894, the asylum changed its name to the Toledo State Hospital. More recently, NOPH was known as the Toledo Campus of Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare until it became its own freestanding hospital in June 2009 to provide more localized services to the boards, providers, clients and families in the area.

For more information about the state's public psychiatric hospitals, visit <http://goo.gl/wBxVu>



Photos: Shown at left is the entrance to the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital building in Toledo. The urn in the photo was one of several urns that was located on the grounds of the original hospital site. At right, a historical photo of the original hospital grounds taken in approximately 1890 shows several of these urns. Photo courtesy of the Local History Department, Toledo-Lucas County Public Library.

ODMH Names Acting Director of Hospital Services



David A. Colletti

Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) Director Tracy Plouck is pleased to announce that David A. Colletti will serve as acting deputy director of Hospital Services until a permanent hire is made. Colletti replaces Bob Short, who retired at the end of 2012. As Acting Director, Colletti will be responsible for the operation of the Department's six regional psychiatric hospitals, as well as ODMH's outpatient mental health and community support services.

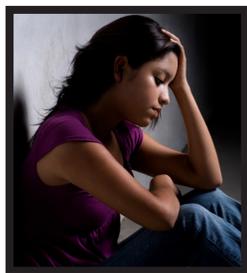
Colletti, chief executive officer at North-coast Behavioral Healthcare (NBH) in Northfield, has more than 25 years of experience in the field of mental health. In 2000, he was named the Professional of the Year by the Ohio Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Governor Signs Chemical Dependency Counselor Licensure Bill into Law

On Dec. 20, 2012, Governor John R. Kasich signed [House Bill 284](#). This bill impacts chemical dependency treatment professionals by setting up what the bill's sponsors describe as a more flexible, relevant and accessible Chemical Dependency Counselor License. Also, the bill creates incentives for new and existing behavioral health professionals to obtain the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals (OCDP) Chemical Dependency Counselor License designed to allow the continued development and education of qualified and knowledgeable chemical dependency treatment professionals. (Reprinted from: *OACBHA News* 1/2/13)

Cleveland to Launch New Hotline in April for Victims of Sex Trafficking

The Cleveland Rape Crisis Center plans to launch a hotline for sex trafficking survivors this April. The support and crisis hotline is part of an effort to help people who are, or have been victims of domestic or international sex trafficking, according to a report in [The Cleveland Plain Dealer](#). Called Project STAR, which stands for Sex Trafficking Advocacy and Recovery for victims, the new services are being paid for by a \$30,000 grant from The Cleveland Foundation.



National studies suggest that youth ages 12-14 are at the highest risk of being prostituted. The Ohio Attorney General's Office estimated that more than 1,800 children aged 12-17 in Ohio were sold or forced into sex in 2010. Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, in conjunction with the Ohio Human Trafficking Commission, recently released an updated [2012 Annual Report](#).

Drug Free Action Alliance Encouraging Middle, High School Students to Get in the Game with "Big Bowl Vote 2013"

The NFL Super Bowl is known for its commercials as much as it is for the game itself. Of that wide viewing audience, about 18 percent will be youth under 21 — all of whom will be exposed to alcohol advertising. To help young people learn to decode advertising messages and measure the impact of alcohol advertising on youth, Drug Free Action Alliance (DFAA) is seeking participation in the BIG BOWL VOTE (BBV) 2013.



Last year, more than 42,000 middle and high school students in 43 states participated in the Vote, which once again revealed the youth appeal of alcohol advertising as beer commercials ranked among the top three "most memorable" commercials.

Studies show that the more exposure youth have to alcohol advertising, the more likely they are to consume alcohol underage. Through a simple, three-question, student questionnaire given Monday morning following the Super Bowl (Feb. 4, 2013) middle and high school students share their thoughts on what advertisements they remember seeing and which commercial takes their top vote. This information is then collected, summarized and shared. This information is used to educate parents, students, and others about the effects of alcohol advertising on youth.

Visit the [DFAA website](#) for complete details and download a free Big Bowl Vote playbook, classroom guide and media literacy video.

NIDA Sponsoring National Drug Facts Week — January 28-February 3, 2013

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) is sponsoring National Drug Facts Week January 28-February 3, 2013 — a collaborative effort between organizations, adult advisors, and local teens serving as an opportunity to "shatter the myths about drugs."

To help communities set the record straight, NIDA has released a [National Drug Facts Week Event Toolkit](#), featuring information on planning an event, activity ideas, and tools/resources.



New Learning Community Will Share Lessons of Health Home Implementation

An Ohio Health Home Learning Community is being established to support the community providers who are participating in the Phase I launch of Ohio Medicaid Health Homes for individuals with serious and persistent mental illness. The Ohio Department of Mental Health and the Office of Medical Assistance will collaborate with Health Services Advisory Group to establish the Learning Community in February 2013. It will include a series of in-person and virtual learning sessions on a variety of topics such as improving care coordination and enhancing the consumer experience. The Learning Community will become a forum to address early implementation challenges, and share best practices and lessons learned. Knowledge gained will inform future state policy decisions. For more information about these Learning Communities, contact ODMH's Integrated Clinical Care Director Afet Kilinc at Afet.Kilinc@mh.ohio.gov or 614-752-9703.

Health Homes/Health Integration Technical Assistance and Training Initiatives

The Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) is launching Technical Assistance and Training Initiatives to promote adoption of integrated health care and [health home](#) service delivery models for individuals with serious and persistent mental illness. ODMH will engage nationally recognized experts, consultants and trainers to deliver technical assistance and training to community behavioral health centers who are interested in transforming their organizations through implementation of these models. For complete details, click [here](#).

SFY 2014-15 Biennial Budget - Key Dates

Circle these dates on your calendar: **Feb. 4, 2013** and **June 30, 2013**. Feb. 4, 2013 is when we expect Governor Kasich to unveil his proposed biennial budget. June 30, 2013 is the date by which all budget deliberations will be complete and the new budget will be signed into law.

Between these two dates, please keep watch for periodic updates, separate from the *BH e-Update*, in which the Departments will provide factual information on budget developments (both budgetary and related to our ODMH/ODADAS consolidation efforts), updates on the budget process and schedule, dependable budget numbers, web links to important budget documents, and other useful information. By working together we can craft a budget and a consolidated agency that will improve the services provided to both the mental health and addiction communities!

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Smartphone Applications Provide Behavioral Health Information, Resources

Nowadays, there is an "app" (application) for almost everything, including behavioral health care. As a result of the technology that exists today, people have become accustomed to reaching for their smartphone or notebook to "Google" the answer to any questions they may have. Seeing this technology as a way to help a large number of people, behavioral health care providers have begun using it to their clients' advantage.

For instance, Mental Health America of Texas has developed a free app for iPhone called "ASK" that describes the warning signs of suicide, provides advice about how to help someone who is at risk for suicide and lists where to access services. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has created a smartphone app called **PTSD Coach** where individuals who use this app can learn symptom management for post-traumatic stress disorder, access self-assessment tools and search for available resources. Applications also exist that are designed to access electronic journals by the American Psychological Association and Current Psychiatry. Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous have apps that contain their literature, as well as meeting information. There is even a co-occurring conditions toolkit for individuals who have both a mental illness and substance abuse issues.

Although these programs are not intended to replace professional mental health and substance abuse services, they can be used as a supplement to reinforce support.

ODMH Medical Director Shares Perspectives on Firearms, Mental Illness and Clinical Interventions

In response to the Newtown, CT school-shooting tragedy and other recent high-profile gun violence incidents — including the Chardon High School shootings just a year ago — Ohio Department of Mental Health Medical Director Dr. Mark Hurst shared his thoughts in a special *Firearms & Mental Illness* one-pager. Dr. Hurst reflects on firearms, mental illness, suicide and the role of health care professionals in ensuring patient wellness and safety.



Dr. Mark Hurst

He commented, "Regardless of current or future laws, access to firearms represents a genuine clinical issue that health care providers *should* routinely address with all patients and their families. Both should be advised of the risks involved with individuals who are mentally ill possessing firearms, and the importance of avoiding this risk factor." He added, "While our clinical interventions alone will not eliminate all firearm-related events, they most certainly eliminate some of them. Even one life saved is worth it."

Click [here](#) to read Dr. Hurst's complete statement.

Governor Announces New Autism Policies that Will Provide Needed Services for Kids, Financial Relief for Families and Certainty for Business

Governor John R. Kasich announced Dec. 22 that autism services will be defined as part of the “essential health benefit” package that federal law requires in every state beginning in 2014. Ohio will make autism services available to state employees and their 39,900 covered children after approval by the five state employee unions. Ohio already provides access to autism-related services to approximately 40 percent of Ohio’s children through its Medicaid program.

Research shows that early intervention helps make a significant and lifelong difference in the lives of children with autism by improving social, cognitive and communication skills, and by helping families develop the unique skills they need to raise their children. Thirty-two other states currently guarantee the provision of autism services in health insurance.



The Ohio General Assembly has been debating similar legislation, but the federal Affordable Care Act required Ohio to decide by December 26, 2012, if it will cover autism as an essential health benefit. After close consultation with legislative leaders, Governor Kasich set Ohio’s coverage levels to balance the call for a meaningful benefit package with the reality of job-creators’ economic and financial pressures and their need to keep premium costs low. See the [Governor’s press release](#) for more information. For more information on autism as an essential health benefit, visit the Governor’s [Office of Health Transformation website](#).

AG Awards Mental Health Grants

In mid-December, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, announced awards for nearly \$500,000 in grants to support collaboration efforts between the criminal justice and mental health systems. A collaboration among the ADAMH Boards in Hancock and Mercer Counties with their local sheriffs received a grant award. Additional grants were awarded to the Department of Youth Services, the Department of Veterans Services, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency and the Ohio Supreme Court. Grants range from approximately \$20,000 to more than \$200,000. The funding for these awards comes, in part, from a 2011 bankruptcy discharge with Mansfield-based Richland psychiatric hospital.

Governor Signs Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention Bill into Law

Gov. John Kasich has signed [House Bill 543](#) -- the “Jason Flatt Act” — into law, requiring schools to educate personnel in youth suicide awareness and prevention as a part of in-service training.

Sponsored by State Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Walton Hills), the legislation is named after Jason Flatt, who completed suicide 15 years ago. His father founded [The Jason Foundation](#) with the goal of saving lives by raising awareness about youth suicide. Ohio joins 10 other states that have passed the Act.



Inaugural ODMH Hospital Leadership Conference Draws More than 200



Karl Donenwirth (pictured at left, speaking), assistant chief of Hospital Services for the Ohio Department of Mental Health, leads a discussion at the first-ever *Public/Private Inpatient Psychiatric Services Leadership Conference* held in November in Columbus. The conference, which was sponsored by ODMH, was designed to foster dialogue among leaders of organizations involved in the provision of mental health care throughout the state. Donenwirth was joined at the podium by ODMH Medical Director Dr. Mark Hurst who discussed the framework of the public psychiatric system to more than 200 representatives of hospital systems from throughout Ohio who attended.

The conference was co-sponsored by the Ohio Hospital Association, the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities and the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Services Providers.

DEA Proposes New Regulations to Dispose of Unwanted Prescription Drugs

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has proposed new regulations to give the public more options for disposing of unwanted prescription drugs, such as painkillers and sedatives.



The new rules are designed to reduce the amount of highly abused prescription drugs on the streets. The DEA wants law enforcement agencies and pharmacies to maintain collection boxes for certain medications. The agency also recommends implementing

mail-back programs to safely dispose of the drugs. Under the proposed rules, for the first time, groups outside of law enforcement would be allowed to collect unused drugs for disposal. According to a [DEA news release](#), the proposal would allow authorized retail pharmacies to voluntarily maintain collection boxes at long-term care facilities. The DEA also calls for continued use of prescription drug “take-back” events. The public is invited to comment on the proposed regulations until **February 19**. Congress subsequently will vote on the measure.

Study: Treatment Over Prison Could Save Billions

Sending substance-abusing state prisoners to community-based treatment programs instead of prisons could reduce crime and save billions of dollars, a new national [study](#) concludes. The savings would result from immediate reductions in the cost of incarceration, and by subsequent reductions in the number of crimes committed by successfully treated offenders, which leads to fewer re-arrests and re-incarcerations, according to the researchers. The study authors concluded that if just 10 percent of eligible offenders were treated in community-based programs instead of going to prison, the criminal justice system would save \$4.8 billion, compared with current practices. If 40 percent of eligible offenders received treatment, the savings would total \$12.9 billion. Click the link for complete details.



Report Released on Efforts to Improve Law Enforcement Responses to People with Mental Illnesses

The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center has released a new report that highlights statewide initiatives for supporting local-level specialized policing responses (SPRs) for people with mental illnesses. SPRs are designed to help individuals in crisis connect to community-based treatment and supports, when appropriate, instead of becoming involved in the criminal justice system. *Statewide Law Enforcement/Mental Health Efforts: Strategies to Support and Sustain Local Initiatives* is the result of a project supported by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice. It examines how individual states have developed structures and standards to make police encounters with people with mental illnesses safer for all involved and to produce better mental health and criminal justice system outcomes. The report specifically focuses on Connecticut, Ohio, and Utah, which represent three differently structured initiatives with extensive experience with SPRs. It also includes program examples from other states with established initiatives, such as Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, and Maine. Click [here](#) to download a free copy of the report. Ohio's information appears on pages 47-48.

CDC: Binge Drinking a Big Problem among High School Girls

One in five high school girls binge drink, according to a new report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The [report](#) finds almost 14 million women in the United States binge drink about three times a month. About 62 percent of high school senior girls said they engaged in binge drinking in 2011. For females, binge drinking is defined as having four or more drinks on one occasion. Binge drinking was responsible for more than half of the 23,000 deaths attributed to excessive alcohol use among women and girls in 2011, the report found.



Emergency Department Suicide Screening Tool Accurately Predicts At-Risk Youth

National Institute of Mental Health researchers have created a new suicide screening tool that accurately predicts at-risk youth. The [Ask Suicide-Screening Questions \(ASQ\)](#) instrument is the first time such a screen has been validated for pediatric and young adult patients evaluated in EDs for medical/surgical reasons. Although the number of patients identified as high risk for suicide is small, the screen takes less than 2 minutes to administer. The tool is freely available and [accessible online](#).

Each year as many as 5 to 8 percent of U.S. children and young adults attempt suicide, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In 2010, 4867 youths between ages 10 and 24 died by suicide, making it the second leading cause of death for people in this age group.

Read the [complete NIMH story](#) for more information.



SAMHSA: Decline in Young Adult Nonmedical Prescription Drug Use

The number of people ages 18 to 25 who used prescription drugs for nonmedical purposes in the past month declined from 2.0 million in 2010 to 1.7 million in 2011 (14.3 percent decrease), according to SAMHSA's [2011 National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(NSDUH\)](#). The survey also showed that the rates of past-month drinking, binge drinking, and heavy drinking among people under age 21 continued to decline from 2002, as did the rate of past-month tobacco use among youth ages 12 to 17 and among young adults ages 18 to 25. However, the survey also found increases in the use of other substances, specifically marijuana and heroin. Get full details in the Winter 2013 issue of [SAMHSA News](#).



Study: Opioid-Overdose Antidote Can Save Lives and Money

The opioid-overdose antidote naloxone can save lives and money when distributed to heroin users, a new study published in [The Annals of Internal Medicine](#) finds. Researchers at the San Francisco Department of Public Health concluded that one death may be prevented for every 164 naloxone injection kits given to heroin users, the study said.



Naloxone, sold under the brand name Narcan, safely reverses the potentially fatal side effects of an overdose of oxycodone, heroin and other opioids. It has been routinely used by emergency rooms and ambulance crews for decades. In the past few years, naloxone has been distributed free to opioid users and their loved ones, in a growing number of sites around the country. A recent report by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) found that widely distributing naloxone, and training people in how to use it, could save many lives. It has successfully reversed more than 10,000 drug overdoses since 1996, according to the CDC report. Naloxone is not effective in treating drug overdoses that do not involve opioids.

Last year, in an effort to stem the dramatic increase in drug overdose deaths in Ohio, the Ohio Department of Health, Violence and Injury Prevention Program allocated seed money to initiate [Project DAWN](#) (Deaths Avoided with Naloxone), Ohio's first Overdose Reversal Project. Project DAWN is housed at the Portsmouth City Health Department.

Training Opportunities

CADCA National Leadership Forum — February 4-7

Registration is open for Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America's (CADCA) 23rd annual National Leadership Forum, to be held February 4-7 in National Harbor, Maryland. The CADCA Forum is the nation's largest training conference for community prevention and treatment professionals and researchers. The meeting's theme is "Science, Strategies & Solutions." More than 2,700 participants are expected to attend, including leaders of community anti-drug coalitions, government leaders, youth, addiction treatment professionals, researchers, law enforcement professionals, educators and faith-based leaders. For more information, visit [CADCA's Forum website](#).

The Blunt Truth about Marijuana: Regional Summits 2013

ODADAS, in partnership with Drug Free Action Alliance (DFAA), the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Association of Ohio (ADAPAO), the Butler County Coalition for Healthy & Safe Communities (BCC) and Community Awareness & Prevention Association (CAPA) is co-hosting a series of regional "The Blunt Truth About Marijuana" summits this winter. Trainings are currently scheduled for Feb. 27 in Franklin County, February 28 in Butler County and March 1 in Cuyahoga County. The summits will feature keynote remarks by Dr. Kevin Sabet, Director, Drug Policy Institute and Assistant Professor, University of Florida College of Medicine, Division of Addiction Medicine, Department of Psychiatry. More information is forthcoming at: <https://www.drugfreeactionalliance.org/upcoming-events>.

11th Annual All-Ohio Institute on Community Psychiatry — March 1-2

ODMH, in cooperation with the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine Department of Psychology, will host the 11th Annual All-Ohio Institute on Community Psychiatry "Health Homes, Integrated Care and the Future of Community Psychiatry" March 1-2 at the Hilton Cleveland East in Beachwood. The Institute features workshops, showcase presentations and a poster session highlighting specific skills-training while featuring the best of new programs, curricula and clinical practices from around the state. For complete details, including registration information, click [here](#).

Save the Date! ODADAS 2013 Spring Conference — March 6-7

Problem gambling prevention and treatment and the future of Ohio's behavioral health system will take center stage at the [2013 Spring Conference](#) "Wellness & Addiction Services: Moving Forward" March 6-7 at the Crowne Plaza North, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus. Day one will focus on problem and pathological gambling prevention and treatment, while Day two will feature a full line-up of speakers, panel discussions and workshops covering topics such as clinical supervision, community prevention, ethics, tele-health, Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), Traumatic Brain Injury and more. Registration materials will be available on the ODADAS website under the [Conferences/Trainings tab](#) in late January.

Save the Dates! 2013 FASD Diagnostic Capacity Trainings — April 10 & 11

The Ohio Departments of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) and Mental Health (ODMH) are cosponsoring [training sessions](#) in April for healthcare practitioners who can diagnose the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FAS, pFAS, ARND, ARBD), or those who would like to gain the skills needed to diagnose. Dr. David Wargowski from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health will lead the trainings on April 10 at Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare in Athens and April 11 at Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare in Columbus. CMEs have been approved. The trainings will be limited to 35 individuals per four-hour session on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact FASD Statewide Coordinator Melinda Norman at [614-644-8318](tel:614-644-8318) or melinda.norman@ada.ohio.gov for more information.

National Guard Seeking Participants for 2013 TRICARE Awareness Week

The Ohio National Guard Outreach office is seeking nominations for the **2013 TRICARE Awareness Week** event at Rickenbacker Air National Guard base in Columbus on April 25. The purpose of this event is to promote awareness about the military's need for health care providers to accept more TRICARE beneficiaries. At this full-day event, participants will hear presentations by a senior Ohio National Guard commander explaining the contemporary role of the Guard and an overview of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) by the Founder of Resurrecting Lives, Dr. Chrisanne Gordon. An orientation flight on a Blackhawk helicopter will also be provided.



Nominees desired include: civilian physicians who practice orthopedics, internal medicine, neurology, psychiatry, family practice, OB/GYN and pediatrics who do not accept TRICARE beneficiaries. Civilian nurse practitioners, independently licensed counselors, social workers, marriage and family therapists, psychologists, physician and behavioral health association leaders, hospital executives and practice admin-

istrators who do not accept TRICARE beneficiaries are also encouraged to participate. If you would like to be considered for this event, please complete the [nomination form](#). Questions? Please contact Kathy Lowrey, LtCol OHANG, Director of Community Outreach at [614-336-7002](tel:614-336-7002) or kathryn.l.lowrey.mil@mail.mil.

2013 Ohio Opiate Summit — April 29-30

Save the Date! The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities is partnering with the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission to host the 2013 Ohio Opiate Summit "Turning the Tide Together" on April 29-30 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Columbus. Watch www.oacbha.org for more details in coming months. Please contact Liz Henrich at ehenrich@oacbha.org or [614-224-1111](tel:614-224-1111) with any questions.



Council to Provide State's First Peer Specialist Training For Young Adult Issues

The Legacy Council of the [Ohio Empowerment Coalition](#) is proud to announce the development of Ohio's first young-adult-specific Peer Support Specialist training that applies to topics and issues that exist within the young adult population. The first training will be held in June. Applications will be available in March. Upon completion of the training, individuals will be able to deliver Medicaid-billable Peer Support Services. For more information, contact Mona Duffy at mduffy@ohioempowerment.org.



Funding News

OJJDP Funds Three Drug Courts to Implement Reclaiming Futures Program

Lucas County is one of three communities nationwide that will receive a total of \$5.27 million in funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) over the next four years to integrate the [Reclaiming Futures](#) drug and alcohol treatment program for teens in trouble with the law into their juvenile drug courts. For more information about the awards read the [OJJDP press release](#). or information about OJJDP's funding opportunities, visit <http://goo.gl/JX4e7>.

FY 2013 Drug Free Communities New Applicant Workshops Planned

The Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program will host three New Applicant Workshops to assist interested coalitions in applying for DFC funding in FY2013. Workshops have been planned for:

- Tuesday, January 29, 2013: Phoenix, AZ
- Thursday, January 31, 2013: Little Rock, AR
- Friday, February 8, 2013: National Harbor, MD (same location as CADCA's National Leadership Forum)

Each workshop will focus solely on the [FY2013 DFC Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#), which will be posted in mid-January, 2013. Once posted, interested coalitions should read the RFA to determine if they are statutorily eligible to apply for funding. These requirements are listed in the RFA and at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/information-for-potential-applicants>. After this determination is made, coalitions should come to the New Applicant Workshop with questions related to the completion of the RFA. It is imperative that participants have read and re-read the RFA prior to attending the New Applicant Workshop. For information related to these workshops, email Helen Hernandez at Helen.Hernandez@samhsa.hhs.gov.

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We welcome your feedback and suggestions. If you have a news item, funding opportunity or training announcement for a future issue of *Behavioral Health e-Update*, please send an email to Eric.Wandersleben@ada.ohio.gov.